

Regular Session, 2009

HOUSE BILL NO. 400

BY REPRESENTATIVES WILLIAMS, GREENE, HUTTER, AND TUCKER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

CURRICULA: Provides relative to required physical activity for students

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:17.1(A)(1) and to enact R.S. 17:264, relative to required
3 physical activity for students; to require public schools to provide at least thirty
4 minutes of physical activity each school day for students in grades seven and eight;
5 to require schools to provide a morning and afternoon recess each school day; to
6 require instruction in physical education as a prerequisite to high school graduation;
7 to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:17.1(A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:264 is
10 hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §17.1. Required physical activity in schools

12 A.(1) ~~Effective for the 2004-2005 school year and thereafter, each~~ Each
13 public ~~elementary~~ school that includes any of the grades kindergarten through ~~six~~
14 eight shall provide at least thirty minutes each school day of quality moderate to
15 vigorous physical activity for students. In addition, each school shall provide a
16 morning and afternoon recess each school day in order to extend the opportunity for
17 physical activity for students to at least sixty minutes per day.

18 * * *

1 §264. Physical education; required instruction

2 Notwithstanding any rule or regulation to the contrary, all public high schools
3 shall give instruction in a course in physical education as a prerequisite to
4 graduation. Such instruction shall be given in accordance with the course of study
5 prescribed by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and shall be
6 equal to four units of credit. The State Board of Elementary and Secondary
7 Education shall prescribe suitable teaching materials for the instruction.

8 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2009; if vetoed by the governor
9 and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on July 1,
10 2009, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Williams

HB No. 400

Abstract: Requires public schools to provide at least 30 minutes of physical activity each school day for students in grades seven and eight; requires schools to provide a morning and afternoon recess each day; and requires instruction in physical education as a prerequisite to public high school graduation.

Present law requires each public elementary school that includes any of the grades kindergarten through six to provide at least 30 minutes each school day of quality moderate to vigorous physical activity for students. Requires each such school annually to report to its board on the compliance with present law and further requires the school board annually to report to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) on such compliance.

Proposed law retains present law and makes the requirement for physical activity applicable to public school students in grades seven and eight. Additionally requires such schools to provide a morning and afternoon recess each school day to extend the opportunity for physical activity for students to at least 60 minutes per day.

Proposed law further requires each public high school to give instruction in physical education, as a prerequisite to graduation, which shall be equal to four units of credit. Requires that such instruction be given in accordance with BESE rules and requires BESE to prescribe suitable teaching materials for the instruction.

Effective July 1, 2009.

(Amends R.S. 17:17.1(A)(1); Adds R.S. 17:264)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill.

1. Rather than increasing to 60 minutes the time which students are to be provided with quality physical activity, the bill as amended requires a morning and afternoon recess.